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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
| 09/157,318 | 09/21/98 | KANEMITSU | T |

FELIX J D'AMBROSIO
JONES TULLAR & COOPER
P O BOX 2266
EADS STATION
ARLINGTON VA 22202

QM12/0727

 EXAMINER

COMPTON, E

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| 3726 | 10 |

DATE MAILED: 07/27/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 09/157,318 | Applicant(s) Kanemitsu et al. |
| | Examiner Eric Compton | Group Art Unit 3726 |

Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 250 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 250 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 11, line 17, "Fig. 3A" should read --Fig. 8--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-6 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 1, line 9 the word "the" should be deleted. In claim 2, line 6, "axial both" should read --both axial--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Art Unit:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 4 is misleading because it suggests that the steps claimed are in addition to those claimed in claim 1, when in fact, they further limit the steps of claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,440,796 to Deggau et al.

Deggau et al. teaches forming an annular member from a metal sheet by rotating a disk of metal material, pressing outer periphery of the material, thickening the outer periphery by pressing, protruding the outer periphery to either side of non-processed portion, and forming a

Art Unit:

peripheral wall 44 protruding to either side of the non-processed portion. Note that Fig. 2b, discloses a center portion 12 that is more outwardly swelled in the center than at the ends. Note the shape of bead 12 can be considered substantially circular. Regarding claim 6, Fig. 10, of Deggau et al. shows a finishing step that results in a protruding peripheral wall.

Prior Art References

8. The prior art references listed on the enclosed PTO-892, but not used in a rejection of the claims, are cited for their metal forming techniques.

Contact Information

9. Official documents related to the instant application may be submitted to the Technology Center 3700 mail center by facsimile at (703) 305-3579/3580. Should Applicant desire to submit a DRAFT response to the Examiner by facsimile transmission, then Applicant should contact the Examiner at the number below for instructions concerning the transmission of DRAFT documents. Applicant is reminded to clearly mark any facsimile transmission as "DRAFT" if it is not to be considered as an official response.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Eric Compton at telephone number (703) 305-0240.



S. Thomas Hughes
Primary Examiner

ebc *EC*,
July 21, 1999